

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed April 11, 2011, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for Continued Examination*. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on March 24, 2006; January 30, 2009; November 13, 2009 and January 13, 2011.

A further Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith and consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 11-13 and 15-22 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 11-13 and 15-21 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 23-33 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled. The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claim 22. Accordingly, claims 22-33 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 22 and 26 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 5 of the Official Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 11-13, 15 and 16 as anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0126108 to Koyama. Paragraph 6 of the Official Action rejects claims 17-21 as obvious based on the combination of Koyama and Zhao (IEEE ISBN 0-7803-1450-6). Although these rejections are respectfully traversed, they are rendered moot by cancellation of the rejected claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.


New claims 23-33 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled. New independent claim 26 is similar to allowed claim 22, except for the memory cells comprising additional regions of the semiconductor films and additional gate electrodes. These features are supported, for example, at least by

paragraphs [0056]-[0057] of Applicant's specification. Therefore, claim 26 should similarly be in condition for allowance. New claims 23-25 and 27-33 depend on independent claims 22 and 26, respectively, and further recite sidewalls formed on side surfaces of the various gate electrodes. These features are supported, for example, by at least Applicant's paragraphs [0074]-[0075] and FIGS. 6B, 7A, and 7B. For at least the reasons stated above, the Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 23-33 are in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280.

Respectfully submitted,



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